

Sinclair Broadcasting has determined to use its control over 62 local stations to pre-empt current programming in favor of an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. Without equal time for pro-Kerry programming, this constitutes a clear case of electioneering, and provides an example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve an evaluation of programming and policies put in place by those controlling what people hear.

Sincerely, from someone who is concerned about maintaining the radio as a resource for educating people in a democracy.